



Grant County Economic Growth Council
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www.grantcounty.com

Federal Communications Commission
c/o Marlene Dortch, Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

WT Docket No. 11-65

Dear FCC Commissioners:

For more than 25 years, I have worked with the Grant County Economic Growth Council to bring jobs to this part of Indiana. We have been successful in attracting 22 diverse new manufacturers and have seen the local investment of more than \$1.6 billion in modernization and expansion projects.

Our county seat, Marion, is the largest town in mostly rural Grant County with a population of about 30,000 people. I share this background with you because I believe I have developed a keen knowledge of what attracts a business and what enables businesses to grow and expand, particularly outside large metropolitan areas.

I am excited about the benefits that Grant County can anticipate because of the announced AT&T acquisition of T-Mobile. Because of the compatible underlying technologies of the wireless infrastructures of these two companies, we can expect to see the deployment of next generation wireless services as a result of this union.

As technology continues to change, expanded wireless coverage and increased speeds are critical for job creation in Grant County and in Indiana. Our communications infrastructure is an important building block for our state and will make Indiana and Grant County more attractive to potential employers.

The next-generation wireless network that will ensue from this acquisition will mean that businesses in Grant County will be able to expand their markets. They will have the means to adopt leading-edge technologies. Business owners who are attracted to the lifestyle of a smaller community will not need to give up their accessibility when they relocate here.

Please take into consideration the benefits that bringing next-generation technology to places like Grant County as you review the AT&T/T-Mobile deal. I believe you will then see the way to approving it.

Sincerely

Tim Eckerle
Executive Director
Grant County Economic Growth Council



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